Defence & Security · GS - III

Terrorist attacks on iconic national monuments expose vulnerabilities in India's internal security architecture. Examine the challenges involved and suggest measures to strengthen monument security and counter-terrorism preparedness.

EXAM YEAR	PAPER	SUBJECT
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MARKS	WORD LIMIT
10	~150 words

Answer Hint

Critical infrastructure security, intelligence coordination, cross-border terrorism, NIA, CISF, surveillance technology, access control, inter-agency cooperation, community participation, emergency response.

Model Answer

Introduction

Iconic national monuments represent India's cultural heritage and national identity. Their public accessibility and symbolic significance make their security an important component of internal security management.

Major Security Challenges

- **Intelligence gaps:** Inadequate information sharing may delay the identification of potential threats.
- **Cross-border networks:** Terrorist organisations may use transnational financing, recruitment and logistical networks.
- **High public footfall:** Crowded locations create difficulties in screening and emergency management.

- **Technological vulnerabilities:** Limited surveillance integration can weaken threat detection.
- **Institutional coordination:** Multiple agencies may face challenges in sharing responsibilities and intelligence.

Measures to Strengthen Security

- Improve intelligence coordination among central and state agencies.
- Deploy integrated CCTV, access-control and threat-detection systems.
- Conduct regular security audits and emergency response drills.
- Strengthen cyber monitoring and financial investigation of terror networks.
- Train security personnel and establish public reporting mechanisms.

Conclusion

Monument security requires preventive intelligence, modern technology and coordinated institutional action. A risk-based approach can protect cultural heritage while maintaining public accessibility.

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